

DOCKET NO. 2002.02.005.NS0  
U.S. SERIAL NO. 10/038,879  
PATENT

**REMARKS**

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Claims 1-36 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-36 have been rejected.

Claims 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 20, 29, 31 and 32 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 6, 13, 18, 25 and 30 have been amended.

Reconsideration of Claims 1-4, 6, 9-16, 18, 21-28, 30, and 33-36 is respectfully requested.

In a telephone call with the undersigned Patent Agent on January 4, 2005, the Examiner pointed out that, under the amendments requested in Applicant's Amendment mailed on December 8, 2004, Claims 6, 18 and 30 depend from cancelled claims. In response, the Applicant submits this Supplemental Amendment. All claim amendments from the Applicant's submission of December 8, 2004, are maintained and Claims 6, 18 and 30 have been amended to depend from Claims 1, 13 and 25, respectively. The Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments provide proper antecedent basis for Claims 6, 18 and 30.

Regarding the patentability of Claims 6, 18 and 30 and the other claims pending in the Application, the Applicant reiterates the arguments made in the Remarks section of the Amendment mailed on December 8, 2004, that Claims 1-4, 6, 9-16, 18, 21-28, 30, and 33-36 are patentable over the cited prior art references.

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SUMMARY

For the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of pending claims and that this Application be passed to issue. If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *btaylor@davismunck.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

Date: 1/4/05

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